

THE
TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT
OF THE
DIRECTORS
OF THE
AMERICAN ASYLUM,
AT HARTFORD,
FOR THE
EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION
OF THE
DEAF AND DUMB.

Exhibited to the Asylum May 15th, 1841.

HARTFORD.

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1841.

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Directors chosen at the Annual Meeting, May 15th, 1841.

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TO THE
PATRONS AND FRIENDS
OF THE
AMERICAN ASYLUM,
AT
HARTFORD,
FOR THE
EDUCATION OF THE DEAF AND DUMB,

The Directors respectfully present their twenty-fifth Annual Report :

ANOTHER year of prosperity is now closed, and we have renewed occasion for gratitude to the Almighty. The list of the early benefactors and officers of the Asylum, which appears in all our annual reports, has suffered no diminution. Good order in our internal concerns, and the cheerful attention of the pupils, and of all employed in our affairs, to their respective duties, has been apparent. Desirable improvements and necessary repairs have been made upon our buildings, involving a large expenditure, but greatly promoting the comfort and convenience of the institution, while steady advancement, on the part of the pupils, in intellectual, moral, mechanical and other useful knowledge, has produced much happiness within our walls. Increasing experience suggests from time to time, some modification of our methods of instruction and management, but the general principles of both remain unchanged and still commend themselves to our approbation.

The number of pupils under instruction within the year, is 145; namely, 21 from Maine; 13 from New Hampshire; 24 from Vermont; 38 from Massachusetts; 22 from Connecticut; 2 from New York; 1 from Virginia; 2 from North Carolina; 3 from South Carolina; 14 from Georgia; 1 from Louisiana, and 4 from the British Provinces. Of these, 16 have been with us as paying pupils, 127 as beneficiaries of Legislatures and other public bodies, and 2 have derived their support entirely from the Asylum. Nine of the beneficiaries of Georgia completed the course assigned them and returned home in September last; and notwithstanding the liberality of that State towards the deaf and dumb is believed to be in no degree diminished, their places have yet not been filled. This may be done, however, during the present season.

We would call the particular attention of all who propose sending pupils to the Asylum, to the change recently made in our vacations. The Spring vacation will commence, as heretofore, on the last Wednesday of April and continue *two weeks*; that of the Summer will commence on the first Wednesday of August and continue *six weeks*. New pupils will be received, as usual, at the close of the Spring vacation, and as a general rule, it is expected that all who visit their homes will do so during the long vacation of the Summer.

In our twenty-first report (for 1837) the case of the deaf, dumb and blind young woman, Julia Brace, who has been for about sixteen years, an inmate of the Asylum, was stated at considerable length, and an intimation given, that any interesting change in her circumstances might be noticed in future reports. Nothing of particular interest has occurred since that time in regard to her mental habits, or her general condition. But it is pleasant to reflect, that during her res-

idence here, great accessions have been made to her happiness, and in some important respects, to her knowledge, through our instrumentality. Her forlorn condition became known, some years since, to a benevolent lady of Massachusetts, the late Mrs. Martha Johonnot of Salem, who provided in her will, that within a specified time after her own decease, an annuity of two hundred dollars should become available for Julia's support. The death of Mrs. Johonnot took place during the last year, and it is understood that her executors are making arrangements to carry her benevolent intentions into effect. This provision will probably be ample for Julia's support, of which the Asylum will of course be relieved; yet, unless unforeseen causes should render a change of residence necessary, it is expected that she will still remain an inmate of the Asylum, under the legal guardianship of one of its officers.

The health of our pupils has continued remarkably good through the year. Every case of sickness, except one, has readily yielded to judicious treatment, and few have occurred requiring the attendance of a physician. The excepted case was one of dysentery, and the subject of it an interesting young woman from the state of Maine. This case furnishes an instructive comment upon the value of that education which is here imparted to the deaf and dumb. During the whole of her illness she was patient and submissive. She evinced no alarm in view of the progress of her disease and her evident danger. She was grateful for the sympathy and kind attentions she received, was reasonable in all her requests, expressed no anxiety to recover and none from the fact that her distant parents and friends could not visit her. She seemed on the contrary willingly to commit herself into

the hands of her Creator, in the spirit of penitence, of Christian confidence, of resignation and hope of a better life. Three years and three months before, this young person was in utter ignorance of all religious truth.

When we look back to the origin and progress of our institution, noticing the various minute details of its history, it would seem that a long time must have passed since its establishment. But when we think of isolated facts in its early course, and then remember that a quarter of a century has gone by since their occurrence, we are astonished at the rapidity with which time is hastening us on to the close of all our agencies, and to the final account of our stewardship. The causes which led to the existence of our institution and the results that have followed its operations from year to year, have been detailed in the annual reports with perhaps sufficient minuteness. It is enough now to say of both, that they have an intimate connection with all that has been done in our land, in behalf of the deaf and dumb. Other institutions have arisen and entered with us into the common field of usefulness. Many hundreds of the unfortunate have been relieved, reclaimed, educated and prepared in various degrees, for usefulness and happiness, as the light of human knowledge and of divine truth has been poured into their minds. The national and many of the state legislatures have responded to the appeal of the suffering mute, with a liberality worthy of Christian rulers ; and now, few, comparatively, of this unfortunate portion of our fellow beings, need remain in darkness. Even in the more remote and thinly peopled parts of this extended country, perseverance may generally secure the blessings of education for the deaf and dumb, in some one of our institutions ; and from the provinces and

dependencies of other nations, one and another is arriving from time to time, to share equally with the children of our own people, in the privileges of instruction.

The experience of another year in the management of the Asylum, only adds to the satisfaction of its Directors, in view of the benefits it is permitted to confer. It exists to do good. And in estimating what it really accomplishes, we may consider, not merely the good experienced by those who have been, or are, its actual pupils, but that which their parents and many friends derive, directly or indirectly, from its agency; the communities, also, to which they respectively belong, and in no unimportant sense, our country and the world. For it will hardly be controverted, that the agent or instrument, whatever it may be, which serves to dissipate even a small part of the mental and moral darkness that overspreads so large a portion of the human family, and to put in its place the light of knowledge and religion, confers a blessing upon man. The tendency of this influence is good, and in itself, if unperverted, it is only good. Less evil exists in the world on its account, and less therefore, of the superincumbent mass of depravity and ignorance which rests upon our fallen race, remains to be removed.

The peculiar circumstances in which the deaf and dumb are involved from the necessities of their condition, have often been illustrated in our reports and need not now be enlarged upon. There is a single idea however which perhaps deserves attention. It is, that they are not guiltless beings, notwithstanding the darkness of their uneducated state; though they are unquestionably much less blame-worthy, than perhaps any other class of mankind. There is something in truth, for example, which so readily commends itself to the mind, that

even the untaught deaf and dumb can see it, and such seems to be the constitution of human nature, that they, like others, acknowledge their obligation to be influenced by it, and condemn themselves for rejecting it. So the other virtues commend themselves to their approbation, although they see them but imperfectly in their unenlightened state, and are cut off altogether from that tradition which is an important source of knowledge to the heathen world. When they come to have these virtues presented before them in the light of the gospel, they never fail to acknowledge their excellence, to regret their own previous comparative ignorance, and to consider the opposition they have felt and exercised to them as ill-deserving. Goodness in general, even as they can perceive it, is so right, so reasonable, so attractive, so holy, that opposition to it is evidently deserving of condemnation and punishment. The whole subject of morals is in many cases one of deep interest from a very early day of their residence with us, and in a few cases, curiosity and an earnest desire to know the reasons of our worship and to understand the object of it, have been their principal inducements for leaving their homes. Something on these subjects they have learned, perhaps, from some educated deaf and dumb relative, or other friend, and hence persons of mature age, have applied for admission as pupils and supported themselves by the avails of their own previous labor. The case of a person who has received an education at this, or any other of our American schools for the deaf and dumb, becoming an unbeliever in the Christian religion, is probably unknown—indeed we have never heard of such a person any where. Those who go through a thorough course of instruction, and who have minds capable of comprehending any abstract truth, are capable of

understanding the essential truths of christianity, and with the blessing of God, of deriving the same consolations from them, which others may enjoy.

The deaf and dumb when ordinarily successful in the commencement of their course of education, are introduced early and rapidly to a scene of wonders of which before they had not the slightest conception. They learn that the world is large. Their previous world was limited, perhaps, to the township of their birth. But now, after a few months are past, they can learn of rivers four thousand miles long, of mountains four or five miles in height, of oceans unfathomable and many thousands of miles in extent, of vast islands and seas and lakes, of countries, empires and kingdoms, of cities and towns innumerable, and of the forests and deserts and plains with which the earth is covered. Of the ten thousand other subjects connected with these, such as the productions of the globe, its inhabitants and their works, all which furnish materials for thought, and tend to expand the mind, they also hear and learn and wonder. When they are able to consider with some imperfect comprehension, the size, the solidity, the weight of the ponderous mass of our globe, and to compare it with the other bodies of the solar system ; when they are satisfied for instance, that the planet Jupiter is large enough to make fifteen hundred globes equal in size to ours, and the sun a million, their wonder often amounts to amazement, and they must rest—that they may not be overcome with the vastness and grandeur of such new ideas. When the subject is resumed and they learn that each fixed star above them is a sun, perhaps with its system of dependent bodies, like our own, and that every one of these vast and distant spheres may be the abode of beings and things, as various and com-

plicated as those pertaining to the earth—that all these innumerable multitudes of beings are the creatures of God, sustained every moment by His power, and depending on His will, when they learn why He created them, and, so far as the bible reveals it, what is to be their destiny, when they perceive that He who made, sustains and controls all beings and things, must be infinitely greater than all He has made—when they learn especially the other attributes of His glorious character, that He is just and merciful, that He is holy and good, that He is the most benevolent father as well as the supreme ruler of mankind, then indeed, they not only wonder, but adore! The other great truths of christianity produce a marked and very salutary effect upon their minds, and so far as the evidence of a truly virtuous life can give it, we have in many cases the assurance, that they add their silent song of adoration and praise, of love and worship, of confidence and joy, to that which ascends continually and with acceptance, before the throne of heaven.

Let it not however, be supposed that the great labor of instruction consists in storing the minds of our pupils with grand ideas, or even with religious ones, though both receive in their place the requisite attention. The great labor of the school-room is to teach and to learn written language; so that, if possible, all who are taught may enjoy the free use of that invaluable means of happiness, and may understand, in connexion with it, the various common branches of knowledge. By it they may hold converse with the living and the dead, may transact business with their fellow men, and may have access to almost all the fountains of knowledge and happiness which are open to the most gifted and privileged of the race. Many have already gone out from us, who, in the various common pursuits of life, are enjoying these blessings.

And while the All-wise Disposer of events shall continue to raise up others who need such aid as the Asylum can bestow, so long we trust it will exist and be active in His service.

In behalf of the Board of Directors,

B. HUDSON, *Clerk.*

Hartford, May 15th, 1841.

LIST OF PUPILS

IN THE SCHOOL WITHIN THE YEAR ENDING ON THE 15th
OF MAY, 1841; THE TIME OF THE ANNUAL
MEETING OF THE ASYLUM.

Names.	Admission.	Residence.	Supported by
Allen, Delia A.	June 1839	Westfield, Mass.	Mass.
Allen, James M.	May 1840	East Windsor, Conn.	Conn.
Allen, Mary M.	" 1840	" " "	Friends.
Averill, William H.	" 1837	Branford, Conn.	Conn.
Avery, Hannah A.	" 1836	Salina, N. Y.	Friends.
Badger, Mary E.	" 1837	Charlestown, Mass.	Mass.
Barber, Lorin	" 1840	Hartford, Conn.	Conn.
Barnes, Mary	Ap'l 1838	Mendon, Mass.	Mass.
Bartlett, Sarah E.	May 1840	Lyndeborough, N. H.	N. H.
Beall, Louisa	July 1837	Newton Co., Ga.	Georgia.
Beall, Washington	Aug. 1835	" "	Georgia.
Beckley, Julius	May 1838	Barre, Vt.	Vt.
Berton, Emma Ann	June, 1839	Frederickton, N. B.	Friends.
Birdsong, Thomas H.	Aug. 1835	Upson Co., Ga.	Georgia.
Blizzard, Dorsey D.	Sept. 1837	Baldwin Co., Ga.	Georgia.
Blizzard, Halsted	July, 1837	" "	Georgia.
Blizzard, Penny	Ap'l 1836	" "	Georgia.
Blizzard, Sarah	July 1837	" "	Georgia.
Bogan, Rosanna	May 1839	Jasper Co., "	Friends.
Brace, Julia (d. d. & blind)	June 1825	Hartford, Conn.	Asylum.
Brackett, Joshua	May 1840	Hermon, Me.	Me.
Briggs, Sarah J.	" 1839	Brandon, Vt.	Vt.
Brightman, Job A.	" 1840	South Westport, Mass.	Mass.
Chandler, George H.	" 1838	Montague, Mass.	Mass.
Clark, Avery L.	" 1836	Middleborough, Mass.	Mass.
Cleaves, Daniel	" 1838	Saco, Me.	Me.
Clement, Emily Ann	" 1838	Chelsea, Vt.	Vt.
Closson, Harriet T.	" 1839	Lyme, Conn.	Conn.
Closson, Jeremiah	Oct. 1840	" "	Conn.
Coffin, Sally C.	May 1839	Wolfborough, N. H.	N. H.
Cooper, Julia A. C.	" 1835	North Haven, Conn.	Conn.
Cotton, John R.	July 1837	Salina, N. Y.	Friends.
Cummings, George W.	May 1837	Antrim, N. H.	N. H.
Curtis, E. Washington	" 1840	Leeds, Me.	Me.
Darling, Ann J.	" 1840	Woodstock, Vt.	Vt.
Davis, George W.	" 1840	Milton, Mass.	Mass.
Davis, Hiram	" 1839	Bennington, Vt.	Vt.
Deberry, Edmund jr.	" 1838	Montgomery Co., N. C.	Friends.
Denison, Alpa M.	" 1838	Washington, Vt.	Vt.
Denison, Gratia	" 1838	" "	Vt.
Dennis, Phebe	" 1836	Fall River, Mass.	Mass.
Doring, Edward	" 1836	Boston, "	Asylum.
Edgerly, Josiah	" 1839	Greenland, N. H.	N. H.
Edson, Prudence A. J.	" 1838	Hartford, Vt.	Vt.

Names.	Admission.	Residence.	Supported by
Edson, Rhoda A. M.	May 1838	Hartford, Vt.	Vt.
Edwards, Josephus B.	Aug. 1835	Oglethorpe Co., Ga.	Georgia.
Esty, Caroline E. A. F.	May 1839	Boxford, Mass.	Mass.
Everton, Amos H.	" 1840	Mendon, "	Mass.
Foster, Sarah W.	" 1838	Seckonk, "	Mass.
Foster, Sophia A.	" 1838	" "	Mass.
Fraser, William	Ap'l 1836	Charleston, S. C.	S. C.
Fuller, Rodney	May 1839	Putney, Vt.	Vt.
Garland, Ephraim	" 1837	Conway, N. H.	N. H.
Gates, Artemas	" 1835	Worcester, Mass.	Mass.
Gerrard, George A.	June 1839	Wilmington, N. C.	Friends.
Gordon, Mary H.	May 1840	Hollis, Me.	Me.
Grant, Hiram jr.	June 1838	East Windsor, Conn.	Conn.
Greenwood, Sarah J.	May 1837	Farmington, Me.	Me.
Griswold, Ralph	June 1838	Bloomfield, Conn.	Conn.
Gurtridge, Emeline	May 1839	Horton, N. S.	Friends.
Hastings, Daniel	Ap'l 1839	Greenfield, Mass.	Mass.
Hawes, Elizabeth	Sep. 1840	Lincoln Co., Ga.	Georgia.
Holmes, Andrew F.	Oct. 1834	Portland, Me.	Me.
Hooper, Jane	Ap'l 1840	Guysborough, N. S.	Friends.
Houghton, Alexander	June 1836	Millbury, Mass.	Mass.
James, William H.	Aug. 1835	Columbus, Ga.	Georgia.
Jenckes, Ruth A. M.	May 1837	Sturbridge, Mass.	Mass.
Jocelyn, Jonathan jr.	" 1837	Ware, Mass.	Mass.
Johnson, Benjamin A.	Nov. 1835	Middletown, Conn.	Conn.
Jones, Robert P.	May 1840	Falmouth, Me.	Me.
Joy, Nancy E.	" 1838	Lubec, Me.	Me.
Kendall, Polly	" 1840	Greenbush, Vt.	Vt.
Kendall, Sarah	" 1840	" "	Vt.
Kendall, Sophia	" 1840	" "	Vt.
Kenny, Henry	" 1840	Greenfield, Mass.	Mass.
Kirby, Hannah	" 1840	Dartmouth, "	Mass.
Ladd, Celia M.	May 1839	Ellington, Conn.	Conn.
Langevin, Charles F.	Dec. 1836	Quebec, L. C.	Friends.
Lord, Mary J.	May 1840	Sidney, Me.	Me.
Lovejoy, Orrin	" 1840	" "	Me.
Lyman, Ellen D. S.	" 1836	Northampton, Mass.	Friends.
McCluer, Rebecca	" 1839	Merrimac, N. H.	N. H.
Macomber, Olive	" 1840	Westport, Mass.	Mass.
Maner, George R.	Ap'l 1836	Scriven Co., Ga.	Georgia.
Mann, Mary A.	May 1838	Randolph, Mass.	Mass.
Martin, Ellen G.	Oct. 1840	New Orleans.	Friends.
Meacham, James S.	May 1840	Guildhall, Vt.	Friends.
Meeker, Julia	June 1837	Durham, Conn.	Conn.
Messer, James	May 1840	Boston.	Mass.
Morgan, Diodate	" 1840	Longmeadow, Mass.	Himself.
Morgan, Josephine B.	" 1838	" "	Mass.
Morse, Emma A.	" 1837	Fayette, Me.	Me.
Neisler, William B.	Aug. 1835	Athens, Ga.	Georgia.
Newton, Culver	May 1836	Rutland, Vt.	Vt.
Oaks, Catherine	Feb. 1833	Richmond, Mass.	Mass.
O'Brien, Nancy	May 1838	Boston.	Mass.
Ogburn, Mary A. L.	Sep. 1838	Brunswick Co., Va.	Friends.
Page, John W.	May 1838	Hollis, Me.	Me.
Page, Nelson S.	" 1839	Sherman, Conn.	Conn.
Pease, Bathsbeba H.	" 1838	Somers, "	Conn.
Pease, Martha A.	" 1837	Hartford, "	Conn.
Perkins, Phebe	" 1837	Sanford, Me.	Me.
Perkins, Sally	" 1837	" "	Me.
Poland, Ira	" 1839	Essex, Mass.	Mass.

Names.	Admission.	Residence.	Supported by
P Phelps, Daniel W.	Dec. 1839	Middlebury, Vt.	Friends.
P Pike, Eliza	May 1840	Buxton, Me.	Me.
P Pomeroy, Balsora L.	" 1840	West Springfield, Mass.	Mass.
P Pool, George W.	" 1837	Weymouth, "	Mass.
P Pool, James H.	" 1836	" "	Mass.
R Randall, Cyrus	June 1840	North Stonington, Conn.	Conn.
R Read, Adin T.	May 1840	Dummerston, Vt.	Vt.
R Read, Lucy M.	" 1840	" "	Vt.
R Record, Olivia J.	" 1838	Buckfield, Me.	Me.
R Richardson, James J.	Aug. 1838	Fairfield District, S. C.	S. C.
R Rines, Stephen	Ap ^l 1837	Augusta, Me.	Me.
R Rogers, Ellen P.	May 1837	Freeport, "	Me.
R Ross, William	Aug. 1835	Jackson Co., Ga.	Georgia.
R Scovel, Olive	" 1838	Cornwall, Conn.	Conn.
R Scovel, Stephen	July 1838	" "	Conn.
R Smith, Artemas	May 1840	Wilmington, Vt.	Vt.
R Smith, Thomas	" 1837	New Boston, N. H.	N. H.
R Stearns, Chester	" 1840	Bradford, Me.	Me.
R Stearns, Ruth J.	" 1840	" "	Me.
R Stone, Ann R.	" 1838	Oakham, Mass.	Mass.
R Sullivan, Margaret	" 1839	Charleston, S. C.	S. C.
R Swett, Thomas B.	" 1837	Henniker, N. H.	N. H.
R Swett, William B.	" 1839	" "	N. H.
R Taylor, Linda	" 1837	Andover, Vt.	Vt.
R Thomas, Sarah A.	Nov. 1836	Hartford, Conn.	Conn.
R Thresher, Julius	May 1837	East Randolph, Vt.	Vt.
R Tilden, Edward	" 1838	Fairlee, Vt.	Vt.
R Titcomb, Augustus	" 1840	Cumberland, Me.	Me.
R Tucker, Harriet N.	" 1836	Milton, Mass.	Mass.
R Trufant, Mary E.	" 1836	Charlestown, Mass.	Mass.
R Tyler, Mariette	" 1840	Westford, Vt.	Vt.
R Tyler, Royal G. N.	" 1839	Killingworth, Conn.	Conn.
R Watson, Sarah Q.	" 1838	Warner, N. H.	N. H.
R Watson, Uriah	" 1840	Lowell, Mass.	Mass.
R Whitcher, Levi	" 1837	Coventry, N. H.	N. H.
R White, Lorenzo D.	Sept. 1836	Taunton, Mass.	Mass.
R White, Sarah	May 1837	Leicester, "	Mass.
R Whittlesey, James H.	" 1840	Canaan, N. H.	N. H.
R Winchester, Ezra	" 1840	Norwich City, Conn.	Conn.
R Wood, Gilbert	" 1837	Benson, Vt.	Vt.
R Young, Charles W.	" 1837	Wendell, N. H.	N. H.

Supported by their friends,	15
" by Maine,	21
" by New Hampshire,	13
" by Vermont,	22
" by Massachusetts,	35
" by Connecticut,	20
" by South Carolina,	3
" by Georgia,	13
" by the Asylum,	2
" by himself,	1

Total, . . . 145

SPECIMENS OF ORIGINAL COMPOSITION.

The following are original essays by a former pupil who was four years under instruction. When they were written, he had been away from the Asylum, and from all direct instruction, for the term of twelve or fourteen years.

Those of the deaf and dumb who are successful in acquiring a tolerably correct knowledge of the various branches taught in the Asylum, not only retain this knowledge after leaving us, but by reading and intercourse with society, often improve in the facility and accuracy with which they make use of written language. This is especially the case when they have free intercourse with people of intelligence and refinement.

These essays serve to show, among other things, that their author takes an intelligent and useful interest in the discussions, pursuits and general affairs of the community of which he is a member; and to say the least, that he has lost nothing on the score of general knowledge since he left the Asylum. They were read, with several others, at meetings of a Lyceum in a country town of Massachusetts, (for which purpose alone they were prepared,) and have not received the least alteration since coming into our hands.

*Will the Railroad from Albany to Boston, when completed,
promote the general interest of the State?*

I answer in the negative, with the utmost impartiality.

Bloated wealth has had its bud in an excessive desire to fare sumptuously every day, like Dives of old.

A few years ago, a gang of capitalists looked round about over all the land, and said one to another, "Behold the land thickly settled with industrious yeomanry and mechanics, busily engaged in their daily vocations, like ants on an ant-hill in summer. Let us speculate out of their industry. Let us make them believe that a railroad from Albany to Boston will be important to the State, (we are the State,) but let them not know that we call ourselves the State, or else they will not permit us to construct the railroad. And we shall transmit our immense wealth to our posterity, who will be at ease, and exempt from hard labor."

Mr. President, you see how ignorant the gang are of their own interest, and the general interest of the people. Men of the mightiest minds, in Europe and America, have lately and providentially inquired into causes of the deterioration of the human constitution. They are convinced that the railroads and sumptuous fare are among the causes. What deteriorates the constitution, deteriorates the mind also. Travelling by artificial means requires but little exercise. They who are able to travel much on foot without fatigue, prefer going afoot to riding in a railroad car, because they know that constant exercise, as well as work, makes the muscles solid and powerful, and preserves the integrity of all the functions of life. The Greeks and Macedonians once obeyed most, if not all the laws of life and health, and were therefore remarkable for their muscular power and elasticity; and thirty thousand of them marched very rapidly day and night, under command of Alexander the Great, against the immense invading army of Darius, and slew four hundred thousand of the luxurious Persians in two great battles, one of which was fought near Issus in Asia Minor. Alexander was the he-goat in Daniel's vision, and went so rapidly that he seemed to go without touching the ground.

The railroad will fetch other things that deteriorate the constitution, such as tea, coffee, pepper, spices, ginger, liquors, candies, tobacco, molasses, and other poisons too numerous to mention. The railroad will fetch oranges; but ripe apples, if eaten in their natural state, and at proper times, are the best as well as the most wholesome of all fruit. I would rather give six cents for an apple, than give one cent for an orange.

The average stature of men should be six feet, and that of women five feet and ten inches, well made, stout, and long-lived. The human constitution can easily improve in the next generation that live correctly, but the constitution in the fourth and fifth generations will be restored to its original excellence.

Russell produces all the necessaries of life; therefore we are under no necessity of purchasing victuals of the railroad gang. There are few articles which the railroad fetches, of which we are in want; such as axes, scythes, knives, forks, hoes, iron, glasses; but all these can be fetched by other means.

Do you, President, expect to send lumber to Boston, and get the money? Well, but all other men have the right to send lumber and other produces to Boston and other places. The market may be glutted, so that little or no profit will be obtained; or if it commands good prices, the city will increase too fast, and will be a sore evil to the country. A majority of the city population will be so corrupt as to seek the destruction of our free government; or if they do not seek such mischief, they will contribute unintentionally towards the ruin of our republic.

The too fast increasing of a city population may be effectually retarded, if the country folks are frugal, and eat nothing but what grow on their farms, and manufacture their own clothing. I would rather give three shillings for a yard of cloth made by a virgin in town or vicinity, than give two shillings for a yard of the same quality fetched by the railroad gang. Plain clothes do just as well to be worn at meeting and wedding, as a splendid suit of clothes; but what is fine dress to him who is out of health or toothless. It is easy to preserve the teeth through life. There is a cause for every thing. There are causes for rotten teeth to be fetched by railroad incorporation, such as tea, coffee,

pepper, cloves, tobacco, &c. &c. &c. All things are lawful, but all things are not convenient.

The railroad will bring a revenue to the State to support common schools, bridges, and other objects; but we have done well enough the last fifty years, without railroads and canals. It is ridiculous in the gang to talk of supporting common schools out of their railroad, whilst they fetch luxuries that debilitate the body and mind of the scholar so much that he or she will not acquire much knowledge in school, or the militia would be so enfeebled that they would meet with much loss of blood to defend their country. But they who live plainly from childhood to manhood, have minds so vigorous and brisk that they will go to school but little, and will be their own teachers, and will instruct themselves out of books mostly at home. They are powerful and active enough to defend their country at a cheap rate.

If I had been managed properly, I would not have lost the invaluable sense of hearing; but I do not, and need not, think hard of my parents. They intended good for me, and never had an opportunity of knowing all the law of life and health.

There will be many coxcombs and epicures travelling along the railroad, to see strange things; but their eyes will never be satisfied with seeing. If the gang succeed in amassing their wealth, they will fare sumptuously every day, unless they resist the devil; and their posterity will be puny, diseased, foolish, and short-lived. Had I a voice of thunder, I would speak to them thus:—"Howl, ye rich men, for the misery that shall come upon you, because you obtained your riches by fetching diseases upon yourselves and upon the people."

If the laws of life and health should be generally known and obeyed, as I believe they will be, the railroad will be deserted or in little use. Yet I shall use the railroad occasionally for convenience or necessity's sake.

The canal from Northampton to New Haven has not been a source of wealth to its company, because we have been frugal enough.

If I could travel on foot every day without fatigue, I would think very little of the railroad, which is not much better than a railroad from the city of Gomorrah to the city of Sodom would be.

The arguments are in favor and the case is against the railroad—so said the president.

Ought the new License Law to be enforced?

Yes, sir, we ought every one of us to support it. It agrees with the constitution of Massachusetts, as well as with the physiological law. All the sublime orations that have been hatched in taverns and groceries, and uttered against the license law, are sublime nonsense. The orators complained that the law favored the rich, and oppressed the poor. Their babbling is full of absurdities, because I am poor, and never am oppressed by it. I should say that it oppresses the rich, and favors the poor; for the latter are so poor as to be unable to purchase the fifteen gallon cask containing the treacherous poison, to destroy them like fools.

There was a large high enclosure, in which one hundred wild beasts of exquisite beauty, with eyes as bright as the sun, were kept. A State law was

made to regulate the price of admission at one hundred dollars, to be paid by every visitor. The poor complained that the law was oppressive, because it disabled them from buying tickets of admission, and enabled the rich to see the bewitching beasts. In a few days the gates were thrown open to all. The poor rushed into the enclosure, and exclaimed: "What a scene of devastation! Behold! all the beasts are killed; most of the rich men that bought admission, lie weltering in blood; there must have been bloody conflicts between them and the treacherous beasts; we should be thankful that we have been too poor to buy tickets of admission, as we would otherwise have been involved in the general work of death." Let us all be so poor as to be unable to purchase rum and other poisons. Let us all uphold the license law. Let us blow intoxicating drinks of every description sky high, out of the mouth of temperance cannon, and the children of the rising generations will be sweet and healthy and wise. Let all the democrats and others every where keep the license law in force, as well as improve it. I believe that it agrees with the principles of democracy.

If the antediluvians rise from the dead to-night, they would compare their strength with ours, and get shocked at our feebleness, and say, "every one of us was able to lift a ton and upwards."

There lived in England a man of ordinary size, Topham by name, who was so strong that he lifted three hogsheads full of water, weighing, in the whole, about fifteen hundred pounds avoirdupois or more.

A traveller from Europe has called us a nation of drunkards. I blush for the republic. Let us all drive all strong drinks out of our republic.

I wish that one of the antediluvians would rise from the dead and preside over this meeting, instead of that poor looking fragment of humanity now sitting in the chair, for he (the antediluvian) would not decide amiss on the merit of the license law.

In every person there are one hundred nerves, and countless branch-nerves. There are nerves extending from the stomach into the brain. The excitement which rum produces in the stomach, runs up the nerves into the brain, and distracts the understanding, as a squirrel runs up the trunk into the limbs of a tree, and distracts or shakes all the leaves in October. How can they who are afflicted with squirrels and rats within their skulls, preserve their liberty long, and transmit the blessings of a free government to posterity?

A beggar came into our house last Thursday night. In the morning, I saw him thrust a pipe into his mouth and smoke tobacco. I thought, from the appearance of a rum-blossom in the middle of his miserable face, that he must have slept in an intoxicating bottle many years. I thought much of his wretchedness, and wished that a law had been enacted a century years ago, prohibiting wholly the touching, handling, and tasting of rum. Let us all honor the license law, and improve it, so that posterity will enjoy the might, in body and mind, of the antediluvians, walking in their democratic majesty. Amen.

Some of the opponents say, that a man has the right to drink what he likes. It is perhaps admissible, provided he who drinks spirituous liquor lives alone in a cold dismal cave, or where he does not drink to the injury of others who are friendly to the law. He should not impregnate the air of the house or room with the foul gas that issues out of his mouth or nose, to the injury of his wife and children, and brothers and sisters, and neighbors, because the pure air is the only thing fit for respiration.

If the license law is unequal, as the opponents affirm, then how much unequal is the law which compels the non-drinking community to support, with their money, the paupers who become so by opposing the license law. Will the noble-minded temperance men labor like a pack of negro slaves, to support that worthless class of animals? Or rather, will the opposers of the license law be so honest as to support every rum pauper out of their own pockets?

A blind man said that he was friendly to navigation, and went to work at the helm, and led the ship against a rock, and it was dashed to a thousand pieces: so is it with every self-interested man who says that he is friendly to temperance, but who condemns the license law, and leads the unfortunate victim of the bottle into the abyss of wretchedness and ruin.

The strongest man in town is a mere fragment of humanity when compared with the antediluvians, every one of whom was a perfect piece of humanity for strength, physical and mental; for symmetry of form; and for the vigor and perfect development of all the organs and vitals, so necessary to secure perfect health and longevity. And the legislature passed the license law from motives of benevolence, in order to improve the human constitution of every succeeding generation. Let us all sustain the law, rather for posterity's sake than for our own sake.

Dr. *The American Asylum in Account with James B. Hosmer, as Treasurer,* Cr.

We have examined the above Account, and find it correct.

HARTFORD, April 1st, 1841.

JAMES B. HOSMER, *Treasurer.*

Hartford, April 7, 1811.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

I. The Asylum will provide for each pupil, board, lodging and washing ; the continual superintendence of health, conduct, manners and morals ; fuel, candles, stationery and other incidental expenses of the school room, for which, including TUITION, there will be an annual charge of one hundred dollars.

II. In case of sickness, the necessary extra charges will be made.

III. No pupil will be received for a less term than two years, and no deduction from the above charge will be made on account of vacations or absence, except in case of sickness.

IV. Payments are always to be made six months in advance ; for the punctual fulfilment of which, and the continuance of the pupil for two years, except in case of sickness or dismissal by the Directors, a satisfactory bond will be required.

V. Each person applying for admission as a State pupil, must be between the ages of TWELVE and TWENTY-FIVE years ; other applicants must not be under TEN, nor over THIRTY years of age. All must be of good natural intellect ; capable of forming and joining letters with a pen, legibly and correctly ; free from any immoralities of conduct and from any contagious disease. A satisfactory certificate of such qualifications will be required.

Applications for the benefit of the Legislative appropriations in the States of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, should be made to the Secretaries of those States respectively, stating the name and age of the proposed beneficiary, and the circumstances of his parent or guardian. In the States of Vermont, South Carolina and Georgia, applications, as above, should be made to the Commissioners of the funds for the education of the deaf and dumb ; and in Connecticut, to his Excellency the Governor of the State. In all cases a certificate from two or more of the Select Men, Magistrates or other respectable inhabitants of the township or place, to which the applicant belongs, should accompany the application.

Those applying for the admission of *paying pupils*, may address their letters (post paid) to the Principal of the Asylum.

The Spring Vacation begins on the last Wednesday of April and continues *two weeks*. The Vacation of the Summer begins on the first Wednesday of August and continues *six weeks*. The time for admitting pupils, is at the close of the spring vacation. Punctuality in this respect is very important ; as it cannot be expected, that the progress of a whole class should be retarded on account of a pupil who joins it after its formation. Such a pupil must suffer the inconvenience and the loss.

It is earnestly recommended to the friends of the deaf and dumb, to have them taught how to write a fair and legible hand before they come to the Asylum. This can easily be done, and it prepares them to make greater and more rapid improvement.

When a pupil is sent to the Asylum, unless accompanied by a parent, or some friend who can give the necessary information concerning him, he should bring a written statement as to his name ; the year, month and day of birth ; the names in full of his parents, brothers and sisters ; the place of his residence ; whether he was born deaf, or if not, what caused his deafness ; also the name and direction of the person to whom letters respecting him may be addressed. He should be *well clothed* ; that is, in general he should have both winter and summer clothing enough to last one year, and be furnished with a list of the various articles, each of which should be marked. A small sum of money should also be deposited with the Steward of the Asylum, for the personal expenses of the pupil not otherwise provided for.

Careful attention to these suggestions is quite important.